

THE ONLY WOMAN'S PAGE.

"RAINY DAY" QUESTIONS.

MRS. GOODFRIEND PASSES SOME NOTES OF INTERROGATION.

HE TELLS THE CLUB MEMBERS THAT THEY OUGHT TO FOLLOW THE EXAMPLE OF THEIR PRESIDENT.

Although the clear skies of yesterday were hardly the appropriate stage setting for the Rainy Day Club, that body held its monthly meeting at the Carnegie Building, with all its usual aplomb, and gave thanks for fair weather.

Few abbreviated skirts were in evidence, although Mrs. Palmer, the president, wore hers, as usual, as a matter of principle.

The business meeting quickly dispatched, a delightful programme of music and recitation followed.

Professor Otto Balzer, violinist, rendered a romance by Svendsen and a gavotte by Ries, with Frederick Balzer as Accompanist. Miss Bessie Knapp, the young soloist of St. Mary's Church, Tuxedo Park, sang "Autumn" and the "Singing Song," by Weill, and Alphonse Forster's "Ich liebe Dich." Mrs. John Shockey recited "Bertha's Debut," and Mrs. Isidore Jeffreys Goodfriend, ready, a paper entitled, "Why We Should Cultivate Good Taste and Common Sense in Social and Business Relations." Although this paper was originally prepared for the Dramatic Club, alterations and additions made it equally appropriate for the Rainy Day Club.

"In order to eradicate an evil," said Mrs. Goodfriend, "we must first be convinced that evils exist. I am impressed with the fact that we are always shaking hands, metaphorically, with each other, and congratulating ourselves that we are as great and good as we are, but I never hear of the signs of omission and commission that we are all guilty of."

"Will you forgive me if I assert that we, even in this club, have lost of cultivating good taste in our manners? Do we as rainy day club always appear as the sensible women we really are? I fear we do not. Because when on rainy days we do not live up to our avowed object of dressing suitably for inclement weather, we make out name a misnomer, and we have no excuse for existing as a club."

Mrs. Goodfriend closed by advising the club-women to make up their minds to follow the example of their president and become more familiar with their rainy day clothes.

After another violin solo, "Prize Lied," from "Die Meistersinger," given close with all the moving influences induced by the social cup of tea, save that the tea in this case was cocoa, it was prophesied that succeeding programmes are to be equally fine and varied.

DECORATED FOR BRAVERY.

Mrs. J. H. R. Bond, of Chicago, has served on many battle-fields in Egypt and Zululand, and can show five medals in recognition of her bravery. Two of the medals were given to her by the English Government, one a bronze star, by the late Khedive of Egypt, and the Order of the Royal Red Cross by Queen Victoria. This last medal is only bestowed for bravery in active service in the field, viz., nursing the English soldiers or sailors during campaigns, or on members of the English royal family. In the letter from the Queen which accompanied the cross, it was stated that it was given for "special devotion, competency and bravery."

The cross has the Queen's likeness upon it, and the royal and imperial cipher and crown. Mrs. Bond's bravery was so phenomenal and the way she bore hardships so commendable during the Zulu war and the Egyptian campaign that she was ordered to go to Osborne to be personally decorated by Queen Victoria. She could not go, so the Government of New-Zealand publicly bestowed the honor upon her.

Mrs. Bond says she dislikes the Boers, whom she describes as being "white savages, narrow, cruel and bigoted." But she has a good deal of admiration for the Zulus. She met the Zulu King when he was a prisoner at Cape Coast Castle.

OF SIGNIFICANCE TO WOMEN.

Two bills just passed in the Arkansas Legislature are of interest to women; one of them excuses husbands from liquidating the debts their wives contracted before marriage unless a contract has been made stipulating for the payment of such debts. The other bill was one passed by the House, but rejected by the Senate, forbidding the employment of women as legislative clerks.

From Denver, Colo., comes the news that both houses of the Legislature have adopted a joint resolution recommending other States to give a trial to the woman-suffrage system of Colorado.

SOCIETY GIRL TO BE A NURSE.

Mrs. Nannie Reeves, daughter of Charles and Mrs. Reeves, of Baltimore, who has decided to become a trained nurse, is well known in this city, where she has many friends. She will enter the Johns Hopkins Hospital as soon as a vacancy occurs.

FOR A FRESH-AIR FUND.

A musical for the benefit of a fresh-air fund was last evening at the home of Mrs. E. Russell Houghton, No. 10 St. Nicholas Place. A number of prominent residents of Washington Heights participated with Mrs. Houghton. One of the numbers on the programme that was received with much applause was a mandolin quartet.

WOMAN'S EXCHANGE SALE.

The sale of household articles, now going on at the Woman's Exchange, No. 12 East Thirteenth Street, is fairly well attended. The stock includes many handsome pieces of embroidery. It is the work of confectioners that has been sold during the year, so that the managers make one more effort to sell it, so that it will not be a loss to the women. The articles are sold cheaper in order to get them disposed of.

AMBIDEXTERITY ADVOCATED.

The school authorities in Germany are giving much attention of late to developing left-handed facility among the school children. They argue that the greater development of the right hand produces one-sided movements, which, repeated constantly, have their influence on the entire system and upset the symmetry of the body.

In the boy's mechanical departments in the German schools much of the work is done by the left hand under compulsion. The boys are taught to saw, plane and hammer with the left hand as well as the right. In all trades and professions involving heavy hand work the importance of being able to use both hands equally well is being impressed upon the students. As example, the case of a bronze worker is cited. He could work as effectively with his left hand as with his right. That made it possible for him to change off when his right hand became tired.

Exercise that requires the effort of the entire arm is urged by the German educational officials. Large circles are drawn by the scholars on the blackboards first with the one hand and then with the other, without bracing the hand, so that the entire arm is in action. The superiority of Japanese drawing can probably be traced to the custom of that land to make the children practice painting and drawing without the use of a stick or supporting device for the hand. They are taught to draw at the same time they are taught to write the letters of their alphabet, and they are taught to use both hands equally in the task.

The natural preference given to the right arm has been overcome by the construction of the arms and nerves that enter the arms. The tendons of the right arm are more prominent, the tendons in the left are less so. The hands of men, left-handed, are more dexterous than those of men who are ambidextrous, among these being two renowned painters, Mantegna and Klimt.

MUSIC IN WOMEN'S COLLEGES.

At Bryn Mawr no instruction whatever is given in music. Wellesley gives the degree Bachelor of Arts in connection with the study of theory and practical music. Smith has a school of music, with a director thereof, and music ranks with other elective studies. Its students being assigned de-

MISTAKES OF WOMEN.

"BE CHARITABLE, BUT WHAT YOU METE OUT TO WOMAN, METE OUT ALSO TO MAN."

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Mrs. Julia Ward Howe speaks.

A meeting of the Society of American Authors held last night at the Windsor Hotel, was more than ordinarily enlivened by the presence of noted people who went to meet Mrs. Julia Ward Howe.

Mrs. Howe made an address to the members and guests, which was received with enthusiasm.

The interest in the Brook Farm Colony is always great, and whatever else Mrs. Howe may talk about some one is ever ready to ask questions about that rural settlement in which so many great Americans took part.

To inquirers Mrs. Howe says substantially what she said at the lecture given on Tuesday evening before the Long Island Historical Society, namely, that the land put under cultivation as a farm was not productive, although a practical farmer was in charge of that work, and the ideas of the members as to education she explains at length.

George Ripley took the chair of philosophy and mathematics, Charles Dana of Greek and German, and George Z. Bradford offered to instruct in belles-lettres in the university they were endeavoring to start. One of Mrs. Howe's most interesting reminiscences is of Hébert as it was half a century or more ago, and she said that it was then fashionable to make conformity a virtue, and new doctrines of all sorts were greatly condemned.

She has, she declares, "seen Thomas Hébert, the anarchist, an enemy to all religion, and has also seen Charles Sumner and Wendell Phillips completely ostracized—marked as having been traitors."

Hébert's conduct was learned, however, by all who shared that life, and that she thinks each did abler work from having had the experience with simpler living as it was carried on at Brook Farm.

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